

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JAKART 01101 260947Z

14

ACTION EA-14

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P 260403Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 540

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, ID

SUBJECT: ARREST BUYUNG NASUTION

REF: A. STATE 014690; B. JAKARTA 0973; C. JAKARTA 0756

1. FOLLOWING ARE SUGGESTED DRAFT REPLIES FROM
DEPARTMENT TO SENATOR CRANSTON AND MR EARL JOHNSON JR

DEAR SENATOR CRANSTON:

WE SHARE YOUR CONCERN REGARDING THE DETENTION OF ADNAN
BUYUNG NASUTION AS EXPRESSED IN YOUR TELEGRAM OF
JANUARY 19 TO AMBASSADOR GALBRAITH. THE AMBASSADOR AND
HIS STAFF HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN THE FOLLOWING INFORM-
ATION ON THIS CASE.

2. MR BUYUNG NASUTION WAS DETAINED ON THE EVENING OF
JANUARY 17 AFTER THE RIOTING AT THE TIME OF JAPANESE
PRIME MINISER TANAKA'S VISIT, WHICH RIOTING CAUSED
HEAVY PROPERTY DAMAGE AND SOME LOSS OF LIFE. INDONESIAN
SECURITY AUTHORITIES HAVE STATED NASUTION AND SEVERAL
OTHER INTELLECTUALS AND STUDENT LEADERS ARE BEING INTERRO-
GATED TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THEIR ACTIVITIES WERE
PART OF A DESIGN TT STIMULATE THE STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
LEADING TO THE RIOTS. THE AUTHORITIES SAY NASUTION AND
THE OTHERS WILL BE RELEASED UNLESS INCRIMINATORY EVIDENCE

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COMES TO LIGHT DURING THE INVESTIGATION, IN WHICH CASE THEY

COULD BE BROUGHT TO TRIAL.

3. BOTH THE FAMILY AND NASUTION'S LEGAL COLLEAGUES ARE HOPEFUL THAT HIS DETENTION WILL BE TEMPORARY AND THAT THE CONDITIONS ARE HUMANE. FORTUNATELY THIS HAS GENERALLY BEEN THE CASE WITH SUCH DETENTIONS IN INDONESIA SINCE THE ADVENT OF THE SUHARTO GOVERNMENT. WITH THIS IN MIND, HIS COLLEAGUES HAVE NOT YET INITIATED ANY FORMAL LEGAL EFFORT TO OBTAIN HIS RELEASE.

4. OUR EMBASSY IN JAKARTA WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION. (SIGNATURE)

5. SUGGEST SAME TEXT FOR JOHNSON WITH SUBSTITUTION OF FOLLOWING FINAL PARAGRAPH:

THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE SHARE YOUR CONCERN REGARDING THIS CASE. IT IS AMBASSADOR GALBRAITH'S OPINION - AND ONE THAT WE SHARE - THAT AN OFFICIAL PROTEST ADDRESSED TO THE INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT AT THIS TIME WOULD REDUCE THE CHANCES FOR SWIFT AND FAVORABLE ACTION BY SUGGESTING FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN INDONESIA'S INTERNAL AFFAIRS AND THAT OTHER THAN LOW-KEYED INQUIRY (WHICH THE AMBASSADOR AND HIS STAFF HAVE MADE AND WILL REPEAT) IS MORE LIKELY TO COMPLICATE AND DELAY ACTION BY THE GOVERNMENT. THE EMBASSY WILL OF COURSE CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THE CASE CLOSELY. (SIGNATURE).

6. FOR AVAILABLE ADDRESS INFORMATION ON JOHNSON SEE PARA 4 REF B.

7. COMMENT: ABOVE IS BASED ON LATEST INFORMATION FROM MRS BUYUNG NASUTION THAT SHE HAS NOT RPT NOT RECEIVED LETTER FROM HUSBAND BUT ONLY LIST OF TOILET ARTICLES AND OTHER THINGS THAT HE NEEDED CONTRARY TO PARA 2 REF B.
GALBRAITH

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